

Finnish Food Plants Banned

By The Moscow Times

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Bans on animal-based products from 14 Finnish packaging plants took effect as planned Friday, but the Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Inspection Service said its Finnish counterparts were working to resolve violations of Russian safety standards.

The ban on dairy and meat, which was to take effect July 9, was delayed for two weeks ahead of President Dmitry Medvedev's trip to Finland last week. Among the companies involved were dairy giant Valio and meat packer Atria, YLE, the national broadcaster, said on its web site.

"The Finnish side has recognized the Russian service's complaints and begun work on eliminating the violations that were uncovered, but some of them can not be resolved before September," service spokesman Alexei Alexeyenko told Interfax.

(MT)

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